

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01065 262207Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /146 W

----- 045462

R 261910Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4289

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 1065

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: MEASURES FOR THE FLANKS

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: STATE 35106

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT FEB 25 SPC MEETING, THE GREEK
AND TURKISH REPS DISAGREED WITH US REPS USE OF RECIPROCITY
ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE CALLING FOR PUTTING WITHDRAWN SOVIET
FORCES INTO RESERVE. MISSION BELIEVES THAT KEY TO RESOLUTION
OF DIFFICULT FLANKS ISSUE MAY LIE IN STRENGTH OF GENERAL PRO-
VISION ON WHICH WASHINGTON PLANS TO CIRCULATE VIEWS IN NATO
IN NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 01065 262207Z

1. DRAWING ON REFTTEL AND EARLIER GUIDANCE, US REP
GAVE RATIONALE FOR US OPPOSITION TO MEASURE 2 IN PARA 30
CALLING FOR PUTTING WITHDRAWN SOVIET FORCES IN RESERVE. HIS
PRINCIPAL POINTS WERE THAT (A) ACCEPTING ANY SUCH COUNTERPROPOSALS

COULD SEVERELY CONSTRAIN THE REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES OF US FORCES, INCLUDING THOSE THAT MIGHT NEED TO BE DEPLOYED RAPIDLY IN TIMES OF TENSION TO THE FLANKS; (B) IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO VERIFY SUCH A MEASURE WITHOUT A DEGREE OF OBTRUSIVENESS WHICH WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES; AND (C) THAT IT COULD ALSO INTERFERE WITH ALLIED FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER COMPENSATORY ARRANGEMENTS IN NATO. FURTHERMORE, GIVEN THE PRESENT SOVIET EMPHASIS ON NON-US NATO FORCES IN VIENNA, THE SOVIETS MIGHT RESPOND BY ASKING FOR COMPARABLE LIMITATIONS ON THOSE FORCES AS WELL.

2. GREEK REP EXPRESSED "SURPRISE" THAT US REP WOULD BASE HIS ARGUMENT ON RECIPROCITY, SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF THE ALLIED POSITION ON MBFR IS THE LACK OF RECIPROCITY. FEAR OF RECIPROCAL SOVIET DEMANDS DID NOT PREVENT ALLIANCE FROM FORMULATING A POSITION FOR THE CENTRAL REGION BASED ON ASYMMETRY. ALLIES WERE, IN FACT, TRYING TO IMPROVE ALLIANCE SECURITY IN THE CENTRAL REGION, WHILE ALL FLANKS WERE ASKING WAS THAT ALLIES TAKE STEPS TO AVOID DETERIORATION OF SITUATION IN THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN REGIONS. TURKISH REP SAID THAT TURKEY COULD NOT ACPT IMPLICATION OF DIFFERENT BALANCES IN DIFFERENT REGIONS. ALLIANCE SECURITY WAS INDIVISIBLE, AND IT WAS NECESSARY TO HAVE BALANCE BETWEEN BLOCS AND NOT BETWEEN REGIONS.

3. US REP RESPONDED THAT US WAS NOT USING DIFFERENT CRITERIA OF RECIPROCITY. ALLIED PROPOSALS ON STABILIZING MEASURES AND VERIFICATION TOOK ACCOUNT OF RECIPROCITY. EVEN REDUCTIONS PROPOSALS CALLED FOR EQUAL PERCENTAGE CUTS OF US AND SOVIET FORCES, AND HAD AS A GOAL BALANCED RECIPROCITY THROUGH COMMON CEILING. BELGIAN AND DUTCH REPS JOINED UK IN SUPPORTING US POSITION.

4. CHAIRMAN ASKED COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS MEASURES 3 THRU 6 IN PARA 30 AT NEXT DISCUSSION, ON MAR 4.

5. COMMENT: GREEK AND TURKISH REPS TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT THEY DO NOT REALLY EXPECT TO THE US TO ACCEPT ANY OF THE MEASURES IN SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 01065 262207Z

PARA 30 AS SEPARATE PROPOSALS TO THE EAST, AND THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT AN AGREEMENT PROVISION OF A RELATIVELY GENERAL NATURE IS THE BEST THEY CAN HOPE FOR. THEY ARGUE THAT THEIR MILITARY AUTHORITIES DO NOT EXPECT MUCH CONSIDERATION FROM THE USSR, BUT ARE HOPING FOR SOME FROM THEIR ALLIES. KEY QUESTION, THEY SAID, WOULD BE WHETHER THIS PROVISION CONTAINS ANY "MUSCLE", AND WILL GIVE THEM SOME RECOURSE IN CASE SOVIETS DEPLOY SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF WITHDRAWN FORCES. WHETHER OR NOT SOVIETS ACCEPT A TOUGH PROVISION, IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO GOVTS AND PUBLIC OPINION IN FLANK COUNTRIES THAT ALLIANCE AT LEAST WAS MINDFUL OF FLANKS' CONCERNS.

6. TO RESOLVE THIS CONTENTIOUS ISSUE WITH THE FLANKS, MISSION HOPES THAT WASHINGTON WILL INCORPORATE FIRM LANGUAGE IN ITS PROSPECTIVE PAPER WHICH, WHILE NOT PROVIDING THE SOVIETS WITH AN

OPENING FOR MAKING UNACCEPTABLE COUNTERPROPOSALS, WILL DEMONSTRATE
US WILLINGNESS TO DEFEND STAUNCHLY ALLIED FLANK COUNTRIES'
SECURITY INTERESTS IN MBFR. MISSION BELIEVES, FOR EXAMPLE,
THAT PHRASE "TROOP DEPLOYMENTS" SHOULD FIGURE IN US CON-
TRIBUTION. PAPER MIGHT ALSO COMMENT THAT ANY NON-CIRCUMVENTION
CLAUSE WOULD ALSO APPLY TO PROVISION ON UNDIMINISHED SECURITY.
RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO01065
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740267/abbrytlp.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 35106
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <26-Jul-2001 by maustmc, RDFRD>; RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by golinofr>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: MEASURES FOR THE FLANKS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ANKARA
ATHENS
BONN
LONDON
ROME
VIENNA

USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005